<u>Remarks</u>

Original claims 1 - 36 have been canceled. Claims 38 - 66 are presently pending.

The present claims are believed to be in patentable form as they recite structures and methods not disclosed or suggested in the art.

Should the Examiner believe it is necessary or fruitful to discuss any of the above points in person, Applicant is open to a teleconference (415-551-8298) at any convenient time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 10, 2001

J. Nicholas Gross, Attorney, Reg. No. 34,175

I hereby certify that the foregoing is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, postage prepaid, to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, this 10th of January 2001.